

Sheriff Countryman has served and achieved so much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God and love and support of his wife, Angela, and their three sons, Christopher, Gregory, Jr. (a Muscogee County Deputy Sheriff) and William.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District in recognizing, honoring, and commending Sheriff Gregory D. Countryman on receiving the Community Service Person of The Year Award from the Controllers Civic and Social Club in Columbus, Georgia. We commend and thank him for his selfless service to God, his community, and humankind.

RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF BEN  
ROYDEN OGLETREE, JR.

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Ben Ogletree, Jr.

Ben was born on October 6, 1938, in Livingston, Texas. He graduated from Livingston High School in 1956 and married the love of his life, Janice Helen Clark, on January 31, 1958.

Ben graduated in the class of 1960 from the University of Texas, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a focus on industrial management. He spent the next 25 years overseeing his family's land, timber, and wood products business.

In 1970, East Texas Bancshares, Inc., a bank holding company, elected Ben to serve on their Board of Directors and Executive Committee. As a devoted public servant, he also sat on the Livingston City Council for 32 years, spending 22 of those years as mayor of Livingston. In 1985, Ben became president and Chief Executive Officer of First State Bank. Later, he served as Chairman of the Board for both First State Bank and East Texas Bancshares, Inc. To recognize his years of outstanding service to the community, Polk County named him 1989's Polk Countian of the Year. In 1991, Ben graduated from Southern Methodist University's Southwestern Graduate School of Banking.

After a long career in business, Ben retired in 2005. However, he still serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for First State Bank. In addition to Ben's earnest commitment to his community, he is also incredibly passionate about flying and has held a commercial pilot's license for more than 50 years with ratings for multi-engine, instrument, and flight instructor. Ben continues to put the needs of others first while enjoying cherished hobbies like hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family. He is the father of three, grandfather to eight, and great-grandfather to five.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor my friend, Ben Ogletree, Jr., who has faithfully and humbly served his community, our state, and our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF EARLE FRANCIS JONES

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my dear friend, Earle Francis Jones who recently announced his retirement from Comcast NBCUniversal. Earle has been a fixture on the Hill for many years and I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating him on a successful and storied career. Furthermore, I'd like to acknowledge the contributions Earle has made to the CBC community. They are too many to list here, but suffice it to say, the CBC can't thank Earle enough for his support and counsel to the CBC and the CBCF throughout the years.

Earle was born in Washington, D.C. to Earle Sr. and the former Sylvia Carroll. He is a product of the District of Columbia Public School system where he attended historic Coolidge High School.

There, he excelled in sports, music, and community service. Earle furthered his education by attending American University in Washington, D.C. He then went on to attend the University of California at Berkeley where he received his Juris Doctorate from the prestigious Boalt Hall School of Law.

Following law school, Earle practiced law at Holland and Hart in Denver, Colorado before entering private practice. During that time, he served on the Judicial Ethics Advisory Board as the Ethics Counselor for Colorado lawyers and as an adjunct Law Professor at the University of Denver.

Upon returning to Washington, D.C., Earle joined Tele-Communications, Inc. (TCI) in 1989 where he served as Division Director for Government Affairs and then its Federal Communications Commission Washington Counsel. For three years, he led Washington, D.C.'s District Cablevision as its General Manager and oversaw Comcast's acquisition of District Cablevision from AT&T in 2001.

In 2009, Earle joined Comcast Corporation's Washington Federal Government Affairs where he cultivated a reputation for being an expert on issues and a sought-after counselor and mentor to many on the Hill—especially in the CBC community.

Madam Speaker, I'm proud to say Earle Jones is my friend. I've always been impressed by his integrity and his ability to have empathy for others. I'd like to thank him for all the years he served on the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Board where he always provided excellent counsel and support.

Please join me in congratulating Earle Jones on a remarkable career and wishing him the best as he spends more time with his son Steve, daughter-in-law Heather and grandchildren Ryan and Rachel.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives I congratulate Earle Francis Jones on his remarkable career and his contributions to our Country and our community.

HONORING MAJOR CRAIG A.  
OVERHOLT

**HON. DONALD NORCROSS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Major Craig A. Overholt as he retires from the United States Army. For over two decades, Major Overholt's commitment to service has enabled him to excel in numerous leadership positions throughout the Army, including most recently as an Army Legislative Liaison.

Major Overholt's career began when he enlisted in the United States Army in 2002. He received his commission as a Quartermaster Officer in 2011 after graduating as the Distinguished Military Graduate from the Georgia Southern University ROTC program. Since then, he developed a reputation as a tactical and technical expert, who has served in the most demanding assignments in the Army, including multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

I had the distinct honor of hosting Major Overholt as a Defense Fellow in my office. While serving as my Defense Fellow and as a Legislative Liaison, Craig's interpersonal skills and character enabled him to clearly communicate priorities, ensuring members were educated on Army combat systems, modernization programs, and policy initiatives. Due to his exceptional work on military childcare, the Military Officers Association of America awarded him the Colonel Paul W. Arcari Meritorious Service Award, an award that honors congressional staffers who have made significant contributions to the military community. Craig also led multiple Congressional Delegations to various locations around the globe, distinguishing himself by continuously going above and beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of Congress.

This Chamber will feel Major Overholt's absence. On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank Major Craig Overholt for his outstanding leadership and remarkable sacrifices during his time in the Army Legislative Liaison Office and United States Army. I truly appreciate Craig and his family for their unwavering support to our Army, our Soldiers, and our Nation, and I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BELLE-  
VUE POLICE OFFICER JORDAN  
JACKSON

**HON. KIM SCHRIER**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Ms. SCHRIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bellevue Police Officer Jordan Jackson, who tragically died while on duty on November 21st.

Officer Jackson was born in Spokane, Washington and attended Issaquah High School, then later attended Central Washington University. Even before his life as a police officer, Officer Jackson devoted his life to public service as a first responder. He was an EMT, volunteer firefighter, and a member of the King County Sheriffs Office Search and Rescue Volunteer K-9 Unit.

Officer Jackson was commended by the department for his leadership and enthusiasm to take on more responsibility and was recently awarded Employee of the Quarter for his excellent quality of work and service to the community.

Officer Jackson resided in Cle Elum and was known as a family man who volunteered often for community events and was always proud to show off his motorcycle to all the kids. He was an avid cyclist and previously worked at the ReCycle Bicycle Shop in Ellensburg. He is survived by his wife Kelsey and his two young children. Our community will miss him dearly, and I am so grateful for his lifelong service and dedication.

HONORING MR. ANSIL LEWIS,  
FLORIDA'S THIRD CONGRES-  
SIONAL DISTRICT 2022 VETERAN  
OF THE YEAR

**HON. KAT CAMMACK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, on behalf of Florida's Third Congressional District, we honor Mr. Ansil Lewis as the 2022 Veteran of the Year.

Mr. Lewis served as a Sergeant Major in the United States Marine Corps from 1987 to 2017. While serving, he received the Bronze Star; Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Unit Commendation, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Medal. After years of military service, Mr. Lewis has continued to show his dedication to our community as the past Commandant of the Roy S. Geiger Marine Corps League Detachment 1047, a member of the board for Operation Bambas, and the President of the Veterans Council of Clay County.

We thank Mr. Lewis for his service and sacrifices for our Nation and hope that his volunteer spirit will continue for many years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 489 and YEA on Roll Call No. 501.

HONORING MEL ORPILLA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mel Orpilla in recognition of nearly a decade as an invaluable member of my district staff and his service to Vallejo's Filipino community.

Mr. Orpilla was born on September 6, 1961 at the Vallejo General Hospital to Nazario and

Fofelia Orpilla. After studying at California State University, Sacramento and San Francisco State University, he became the Executive Director of the Fighting Back Partnership in 1996. In this capacity, Mr. Orpilla played a major role in the fight against substance abuse in Vallejo, leading an anti-drug coalition, meeting with political leaders, and assisting with grant requests. In 2004, he joined Kaiser Permanente as a Community and Government Relations Manager and in 2013, joined our team as a district representative and was later promoted to a Senior District Representative for the Solano and Contra Costa portions of California's 5th District. He has successfully assisted over 975 constituents with a wide range of requests from government financial assistance to immigration.

Mr. Orpilla has made immeasurable contributions to Vallejo, and in particular its Filipino community. Over the course of more than 25 years, he has led countless workshops and speaking engagements on substance abuse, community support, and the challenges facing Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Northern California. Mr. Orpilla's passion for sharing the Filipino American story, led to him founding the Filipino American National Historical Society of Vallejo and writing his 2004 book *Filipinos in Vallejo*. He has served on the boards of the Salvation Army of Solano County, Rebuilding Together Solano County, the Filipino American National Historical Society and the Benicia Vallejo Humane Society. A descendant of the Cordilleras tribes in the Northern Philippines, Mr. Orpilla is an expert in the ancient Filipino fighting art Balintawak Arnis and teaches it at the Island Warriors Dojo in Vallejo. His heritage can also be seen on the various Ifugao warrior markings tattooed across his body.

Mr. Orpilla is a devoted husband to his wife Nancy, proud father of Jacob and Tony, stepfather to Justine and Gabe and loving caretaker of three dogs, Chiko, Boo-boo and Fatboy.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Orpilla for his dedication and hard work for the people of California's 5th District. His efforts to better his community, build coalitions and preserve proud Filipino traditions will undoubtedly be felt for decades to come. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING KITSAP COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER EDWARD WOLFE

**HON. DEREK KILMER**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and Kitsap County Commissioner, Edward Wolfe. After 8 years of service in his role as County Commissioner, he is retiring.

Prior to serving as County Commissioner, he was a Kitsap attorney for 20 years, founding the litigation firm Wolfe Law Offices in 1997. He is a past president of the Kitsap County Bar Association and a former judge pro tem in county, municipal, and district courts.

Raised in Norfolk, Virginia, Commissioner Wolfe is a graduate of the George Mason University School of Law. He served in the U.S.

Army and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Ambassador and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in both the Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush administrations. Community service has long been a part of Commissioner Wolfe's career in Kitsap County. He has been a Bremerton Rotarian for 20 years and board member of the Bremerton Boys & Girls Club and Olympic College Foundation and is past president of the Puget Sound Naval Bases Association and Bremerton Chamber of Commerce.

Ed brought logic, rationality and reason to his discussions and negotiations in all of his responsibilities as county commissioner, fighting for what he thought was the right thing to do. He treated all people respectfully. He stopped to listen to his constituents, advocating for their needs with compassion and a commitment to community. And he worked collaboratively with other elected officials—serving as a productive partner on issue after issue.

Commissioner Wolfe has a long list of accomplishments during his tenure. He led the charge on the opening of the new Bucklin Hill Bridge in Silverdale and invited the Crista Shores residents to be the first to cross it. He was a partner in supporting the opening of a new state of the art hospital in Silverdale. He's been an advocate of funding for a new county courthouse to replace an aging and inadequate facility. Personally, I appreciated his long-time partnership as we worked to turn the dream of a new VA Clinic in Kitsap County into a reality. In addition, throughout the pandemic, Commissioner Wolfe pushed for proactive communication with the community about resources the County and Kitsap Public Health District were providing to support health and safety. He also ensured business needs were heard, proactively communicating local needs to Washington State's governor.

Commissioner Wolfe and his wife, Wendy, are looking forward to spending more time with family including their son Steven, grandson, Owen, and a granddaughter coming in late December.

Madam Speaker, beyond his many accomplishments, I would also like to express gratitude for the partner that Ed Wolfe has been to the members of my team—and to me. I'm proud to call him a friend. Please join me in congratulating Ed Wolfe on his service to Kitsap County and the state of Washington. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVAL  
SUBMARINE LEAGUE

**HON. JOHN JOYCE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I am proud to congratulate the Naval Submarine League on their upcoming 40th Annual Symposium, and to thank them for their diligent work to support the men and women of the Silent Service.

The Naval Submarine League was founded in 1982 as a non-profit organization for civilians, as well as active-duty, reserve, and retired military members who remain passionate about the importance of submarines for national security. Members work to promote education, awareness, and research to increase